

Children's Book - Student Packet

Due Dates Checklist

Check	Date	Assignment
	Thurs. 11/2	Project proposal (Science Topic) page - This is the last page of this packet. You will rip it off and turn it into Ms. Dobler.
	Thurs. 11/30	Background Research - Detailed information about background research can be found on page 3 of this packet and in the packet student's will receive from Ms. Hamm in November.
	Thurs. 12/14	Fiction: Plot summary and plot diagram - Details on page 4 Non-fiction: Book Outline - Details on page 5
	Thurs. 1/11	Rough Draft, including illustrations
	Thurs. 2/1	Final Project is due and displayed at the WLPCS STEM Fair

Students will also present in class during the week of 1/22 - 1/26.

Note: Student will receive another packet after Thanksgiving Break that includes detailed directions for the last three deadlines.

Project Overview

This project asks you to select a specific topic in Science and create a book about that topic. You can create a fiction or non-fiction book designed for students in grades 1-3. Your book must include illustrations and should look professional.

In order to be successful with a children's book project, you will:

1. Select a topic for your book - You may select any topic related to Science. Think about what specific Science concepts you have found most interesting and what you want to learn more about.
2. Research your topic - In order to write a book, you need to deeply understand your Science topic. This includes understanding the specific topic as well as understanding the underlying Science concepts (learning about electricity and energy if your book is about solar cars). Ms. Hamm will help get you started with the background research during the first week of November.
3. Brainstorm your book - At this point, you should know if you are writing a fiction or non-fiction book. If you are writing a fiction book, begin planning out your characters and plot. Be sure to think about how to connect Science to your plot. If you are writing a non-fiction book, begin planning an outline showing what information you will include in each part.
4. Plot Diagram/Outline - If you are writing a fiction book, you will create a final summary and plot diagram for your book. If you are writing a non-fiction book, you will write a final outline showing what information will be on each page.
5. Rough Draft, with Illustrations - Your rough draft can be hand written or typed. This is a step that will get turned in, so ensure it is your best work.
6. Edit and Revise your Draft - Editing includes several steps. You should check thoroughly for spelling and grammar mistakes. You should ensure that the colors, backgrounds, fonts, and images you use enhance the book rather than distract the reader. You should also read your draft out loud (or possibly to another person) to ensure that each sentence/page makes sense. You also want to ensure that your draft includes the Science content you aim to teach.
7. Final Copy - Your final copy should look professional. Professional work can be typed or neatly hand written. Professional work is not several pieces of wrinkled paper unevenly torn out of a notebook. This is your final product to present to the judges, so please make it your best work.

Background Research

Product: Due Thursday 11/30

Completed Source Saver and Notes document.

- This document is found in classroom.google.com
- This is the document Ms. Hamm introduced in November
- All **three** sources should be finished

You will turn in at least one full paragraph of research specifically related to your Science Fair topic. A full paragraph means at least 7 sentences. This paragraph will demonstrate that you deeply understand your Science topic. This includes understanding the specific topic as well as understanding the underlying Science concepts (learning about electricity and energy if your book is about solar cars).

Need help finding good sources? Check out the LiveBinder link below (or on the wiki) for a wide variety of pre-approved Science research resources.

[Link to Resources for Research](#)

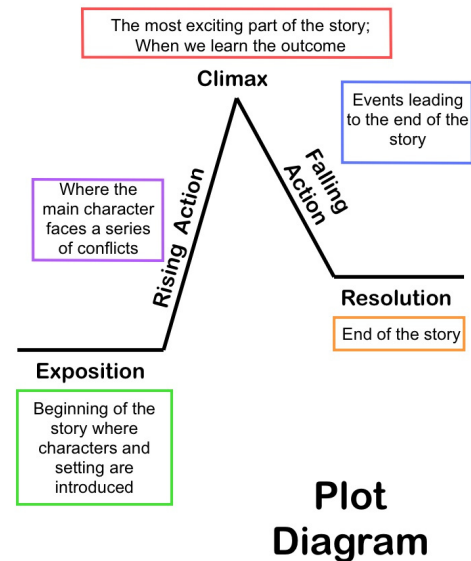
Fiction Book - Plot Diagram and Summary

Product: Due Thursday 12/14

The document, titled **Fiction Book - Plot Diagram and Summary** can be found in classroom.google.com.

Follow the prompts in the document to draft the characters, setting (where and when the story takes place), and storyline in your book. Use what you have learned about plot diagrams in English class to help you. Once you know the basic storyline, move on to filling in the actual plot diagram (next slide).

Don't forget to include the connections to Science.



Non-Fiction Book - Book Outline

Product: Due Thursday 12/14

The document, titled **Non-Fiction Book - Book Outline** can be found in classroom.google.com.

Your finished book should have several different subtopics (at least 3.) Subtopics are like “mini-chapters” and each section covers one part of the larger topic. A subtopic section can be a page or two, or it can be a large chunk of your book.

- Identify the subtopics your book will cover.
- Decide the best order of the subtopics. To do this, think through what topics readers need to learn first, in order to understand what is coming later.

Within each subtopic, you should list the key facts or ideas that you will teach in that section of your book. **The more specific your outline, the easier it will be to write your draft.**

Grading Rubric - Fiction Children's Book

Remember that Science Fair counts as much as a test grade.

_____ **Prep Work (45)**

_____ Background Research (9 - 3 sources, 6 - 1 paragraph)

_____ Plot Diagram and Summary (8 - summary squares (2 each); 7 - diagram with detail, 5 - less detail)

_____ Rough Draft (15 - Includes all elements of plot, science connection, illustrations)

_____ **Book (35)**

_____ Story/Illustrations (10 - All elements of plot included, with matching illustrations)

_____ Science Content (15 - Clear teaching goal met, 7 - teaching goal attempted)

_____ Appearance and Readability (5 – font is neat & large enough to be read, images match text)

_____ Professional and Creative (5 – neat, colorful, ordered)

_____ **Oral Presentation (15)**

_____ Content Knowledge (8 – full understanding, describes in detail, answers questions)

_____ Presentation Organization (3 - On Topic, Logical Order)

_____ Time Limit (2 - 4-6 minutes)

_____ Professionalism (2 - Posture, Eye Contact, Clear Speech, Volume)

_____ **Works Cited (5)** (5 – MLA; 2 – included)

Grading Rubric - Non-Fiction Children's Book

Remember that Science Fair counts as much as a test grade.

_____ **Prep Work (45)**

_____ Background Research (9 - 3 sources, 6 - 1 paragraph)

_____ Book Outline (15 - At least 3 clear subtopics, with detail)

_____ Rough Draft (15 - Includes all elements of plot, science connection, illustrations)

_____ **Book (35)**

_____ Layout/Illustrations (10 - Images and layout used to enhance and deepen content)

_____ Science Content (15 - 3 clear, well explained, detailed subtopics)

_____ Appearance and Readability (5 – font is neat & large enough to be read, images match text)

_____ Professional and Creative (5 – neat, colorful, ordered)

_____ **Oral Presentation (15)**

_____ Content Knowledge (8 – full understanding, describes in detail, answers questions)

_____ Presentation Organization (3 - On Topic, Logical Order)

_____ Time Limit (2 - 4-6 minutes)

_____ Professionalism (2 - Posture, Eye Contact, Clear Speech, Volume)

_____ **Works Cited (5)** (5 – MLA; 2 – included)

Name _____

Period _____

Proposal Form (Children's Book - Science Topic)

Due Thursday November 2nd.

1. Write the Science topic your children's book will teach others about. Be specific.
(Eg: Space is not specific. The properties and movement of Titan is specific.)
2. Give a brief summary (2-3 sentences) explaining your initial ideas about the book you will create. It is okay if this changes later!

If you are working with a partner/group of three, please fill out the questions below.
Signing below means that you and your parent understand that this is an out of class project and have carefully thought through how and when you are going to get together with your partner to work.

1. Partner(s) _____

2. Parent Signature _____